



College of Alameda President's Report March 15, 2011

COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA 285 Staff & Students Strong MARCH in MARCH

ON THE STEPS OF THE CAPITOL, SACRAMENTO, CA MARCH 14, 2011



RETURNING HOME TO COA





MARCH in MARCH

The College of Alameda's Save Our Schools (SOS) and the Associated Student Government

coordinated the college's March in March event, with a bus ride to the state capitol to express their concern over the potential cuts to education. Over 285 students signed up and filled the four busses, one of the largest contingents of the Peralta colleges. Although the COA contingent was large, it is necessary to mention the following individuals and groups:

- Save Our Schools (SOS) club- Led by President Rich Copenhagen, but the entire club contributed in all aspects of the planning and organizing.
- Campus Life Council (a newly constituted body that represents the clubs, the learning communities, and other campus organizations). Through this council we saw the ADALANTE and AMANLA learning communities (Adan Olmedo, Patricia Posada, Vanessa Lewis, and Ellen Davis), *Latinos Unidos* (especially Vice President Esbeyde Checa), and the Psychology Club (President Joseph Bando). All these groups provided key assistance in various aspects of organizing the event; however a special thanks goes out to Adan and Esbeyde because they were instrumental in all phases of organizing, and helped to coordinate the T-shirt and signage campaign.
- Student Trustee Jurena Storm for spearheading the district wide efforts for this event.
- Faculty and Staff: Mustafa Popal and Dylan Eret- who coordinated the entire event from planning to execution; Phil Renteria- a model administrator who sees the commonality of all members of the campus community, and as ready to lead as he is

willing to be led. DSPS (Helene Maxwell), EOPS (Toni Cook & Mary Shaugnessy) all have been great supporters and participants in the effort.

- ASCOA-Led by President Jean Washburn, ASCOA donated food and assisted in acquiring the buses.
- The Auto-Tech program for their strong participation in the March largely due to the encouragement of instructor, Rufino Ramos; and
- To the administration lead by Dean of Student Services, Dr Alexis Montevirgen, for ongoing support in an effort to work in harmony with the staff and students to address the issues facing all of us.

Save the date, Friday, April 29th, at RockWall's (Rosenblum) event dome, at Alameda Point (formerly the naval base) for a dinner & dance as part of our 40th Anniversary celebration.



This theme of this event will be "Honoring our Retirees: Past, Current & Future". Come and enjoy the breathtaking view of San Francisco

and dance to the tunes of *RETROZ* band. Tickets will be on sale in the coming weeks, and, more information will be forthcoming as we draw nearer to the event.



APAHE

Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education Conference, Feb 14-16, 2011



COA attendees(L to R): Maravic Lizarado, Lynn Torres, Dean Alexis Montevirgen, Carmen Fairley(PCCD), President Jannett Jackson, Arthur Rosette, Min Wu and Ava Lee.

Faculty involved in College of Alameda's Learning Communities project presented at the APAHE Conference in San Francisco, Feb 15th. Learning Communities classes are linked so that cohorts of students take two classes and faculty from both classes (English 269-Reading & Writing and Counseling 224-College Success) work together to provide students with the necessary knowledge and self-confidence to succeed. The workshop is entitled: "*Building Bridges, Creating Learning Communities to Serve Students of Color*".

Presenters include Edy Chan, Debbie Green and Christa Ferrero-Castenada, the initial faculty launchers of the colleges' three Learning Communities Program. Faculty leaders in each of the three cohorts: APASS-Asian Pacific American Student Success (focus on Asian Pacific culture); AMANLA (African American focus) and ADELANTE (focus on Latino culture) will also be part of the presentation. This project has been extremely successful in increasing student retention and persistence due in part to the collaborative efforts of the teaching faculty: Darlene Elastique, Vanessa Lewis, Adan Olmedo, and Marissa Nakano. Although each learning community has a unique flavor, all three contribute to a culture of caring through shared space, training, curriculum design, field trips and cultural events.

Accreditation Update

College of Alameda received the official notification from the Accrediting Commission March 10, 2011, that a visiting team consisting of Chancellor Frank Gornick, West Hills Community College District and Mr. Armando Ruiz, Former Trustee of the Coast Community College District will be conducting a follow-up visit Monday and Tuesday, April 11th and 12th. The Team will be reviewing the response to the district recommendations as indicated in the correspondence received from the Colleges (ACCJC), January 31, 2011, indicating that they have decided to "**continue** all four Peralta Colleges on **Probation** for the district issues which remain unresolved". However, College of Alameda was commended for the substantial work to successfully resolve the one recommendation on its comprehensive and integrated strategic planning process. A follow-up report on the district recommendations will be forwarded to the Commission by April 1st of this year.

